

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LAGOS 07611 080910Z
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 FAA-00 DOTE-00 /018 W
-----099801 081310Z /42

R 071540Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2140
INFO USDOC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

UNCLAS LAGOS 07611

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, OCLR, NI
SUBJECT: LACK OF CREDIBILITY, TIA CLEARANCE REQUESTS

REF: A) LAGOS 7461 AND PREVIOUS: B) COTONOU 1084: C) LAGOS 1410

1. NIGERIAN CIVAIR MIN AND EMBASSY OFFICIALS ARE INCREASINGLY ANNOYED WITH TRANS INTERNATIONAL AIRWAYS' (TIA) EMERGENCY REQUESTS FOR LANDING CLEARANCE. LAST WEEKEND'S EXPERIENCE, DETAILED IN REFTELS, ONLY LATEST IN LONG SERIES OF INCIDENTS, I.E., REFTEL C, WHERE TIA INFORMS EMBASSY OR MINISTRY THAT FLIGHT DUE FOLLOWING DAY AND REQUESTS IMMEDIATE ACTION ON CLEARANCE.

2. TWO CIVAIR OFFICIALS, MOST RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEARANCE OF TIA REQUESTS, RECENTLY EXPRESSED THEIR ANNOYANCE. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS, PRINCIPAL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL OFF. J.I. DERU/AND A.E. AIMIENWANU, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY II REMARKED THAT QUOTE TIA PRESENTS US WITH A FAIT ACCOMPLI AND THEN EXPECTS US TO GRANT IMMEDIATE APPROVAL. WE NO LONGER CONSIDER THEIR REQUESTS AS AN EMERGENCY MERITING WEEKEND ATTENTION UNQUOTE.

3. TWO EMBOFFS EXPENDED 13 MAN HOURS ON SATURDAY, JULY 2, SEARCHING
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DURING DOWNPOUR FOR CIVAIR OFFICIALS AT THEIR HOMES IN IKOYI AND IKEJA BASED ON TIA URGENT REQUEST CITING INEXPLICABLE SUFFERING. ONLY LATER WAS EMBASSY INFORMED THAT TIA AGENT HAD ALREADY DECIDED HE UNABLE TO TAKE ADDITIONAL STEPS AND AWAITED MONDAY MEETING. IN THIS CASE, AS IN OTHERS THIS YEAR, TIA HAD NOT FOLLOWED SIMPLE ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES FOR ENSURING FLIGHT CLEARANCE.

4. FROM FRIDAY TO TUESDAY EMBASSY EXPENDED 23 MAN HOURS BEHALF TIA. THROUGHOUT YEAR, EMBOFFS HAVE MADE SEVERAL PERSONAL CALLS ON CIVAIR ON BEHALF OF TIA. EMBASSY FEELS THAT THIS IS A MISALLOCATION OF RESOURCES IN THAT TIA REQUESTS CONSISTENTLY GO BEYOND NORMAL FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE. THIS FEELING IS REINFORCED WHEN ONE REALIZES THAT SEVERAL AIRLINES OPERATE NON-SCHEDULED FLIGHTS TO NIGERIA AND NEVER REQUEST OR REQUIRE HELP.

5. PLEASE PASS TIA. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN WHAT THEY SAY.
EASUM

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LAGOS07611
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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ISecure: 1
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